

Message Text

SECRET

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72

ORIGIN EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 SS-20 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NEA-14 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OPIC-12 SP-03 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01

SWF-02 OMB-01 NSC-07 /165 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO ALL OECD CAPITALS PRIORITY

USMISSION NATO PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 096829

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE ON US/EC NINE CONSULTATIONS

FROM SECRETARY FOR AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES

1. SECRETARY WISHES FOLLOWING GUIDANCE TO BE ADHERED TO
IN ANY DISCUSSIONS ON US/EC NINE CONSULTATIONS; THIS
GUIDANCE IS EXCLUSIVELY FOR ORAL USE:

IN CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EC NINE ON ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE
TO US, WE SEEK AN OPPORTUNITY TO REGISTER OUR VIEWS AND
RECEIVE A RESPONSE TO THEM BEFORE FINAL DECISIONS ARE
TAKEN. WE DO NOT EXPECT THE NINE TO AGREE WITH US ON
EVERY ISSUE, BUT WE WANT TO INSURE THAT DECISIONS ARE

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TAKEN IN FULL COGNIZANCE OF THE VIEWS AND CONCERNS OF THE

UNITED STATES. WE CANNOT ACCEPT THE PROPOSITION THAT CONSULTING WITH US IN ADVANCE IN THIS WAY IS CONTRARY TO THE GROWTH OR EXISTENCE OF EUROPEAN UNITY. WE DO ACCEPT THE PROPOSITION THAT SUCH CONSULTATIONS MUST BE RECIPROCAL.

2. IN FURTHER EXPLANATION OF ABOVE GENERAL POSITION YOU MAY ALSO MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. WE NOTE THE INFORMAL CONSENSUS AMONG THE NINE AT

GYMNICH THAT ANY MEMBER MAY CONSULT BILATERALLY WITH US AT ANY TIME.

B. IN ADDITION, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THERE IS INFORMAL AGREEMENT AMONG THE NINE THAT ANY MEMBER MAY AT ANY TIME REQUEST AND OBTAIN A VOTE ON FORMAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN THE NINE AND THE US. IF PROPOSALS FOR CONSULTATIONS WITH THE US ARE NOT CONSISTENTLY BLOCKED BY THE VETO OF ONE OR ANOTHER MEMBER, THIS COULD ALSO BE A SIGNIFICANT STEP FORWARD.

C. THESE ARRANGEMENTS, IF SUCCESSFULLY DEVELOPED OVER TIME, COULD ENHANCE THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE US AND THE NINE BY DEVELOPING THE HABIT OF CLOSE CONSULTATION ON ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN. IN THE SPIRIT OF RECIPROCITY, WE WILL EXAMINE AND RESPOND TO ANY PROPOSAL FOR CONSULTATIONS OFFICIALLY CONVEYED TO US BY THE NINE, AND WOULD HOPE THAT THE NINE WILL REMAIN RESPONSIVE TO OUR REQUESTS.

D. THE POLITICAL WILL TO COOPERATE IS THE UNDERLYING BASIS FOR EFFECTIVE CONSULTATIONS. WE MUST CULTIVATE THIS POLITICAL WILL AND USE IT TO DEVELOP ENHANCED AND FLEXIBLE CONSULTATION PROCEDURES WHICH REFLECT THE PRESUMPTION THAT CONSULTATIONS WILL TAKE PLACE WHEN ONE OR MORE OF THE COUNTRIES INVOLVED DESIRE THEM. WE WOULD PREFER IT NEVERTHELESS IF CONSULTATIONS WERE LESS AD HOC.
RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 MAY 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE096829
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: WLDUTTON:EUR/RPM:ACFLOYD:RM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740113-1015
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740557/aaaabynf.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <11 FEB 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GUIDANCE ON US/EC NINE CONSULTATIONS FROM SECRETARY FOR AMBASSADORS AND CHARGES
TAGS: PFOR, ECON, US, EEC
To: OECD POSTS NATO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005